

ABSTRACT

METHOD OF MANUFACTURING A THERMAL INSULATION BODY

5 A pressed thermal insulation body is made by a method comprising the steps of:

(1) providing a dry composition consisting of:

(a) 10 to 100 percent by weight of volatilised silica containing a dispersion of 0.5 to 6 percent by 10 weight of carbon;

(b) 0 to 40 percent by weight of infra-red opacifier;

(c) 0 to 50 percent by weight of particulate inorganic filler material; and

15 (d) 0 to 25 percent by weight of reinforcing filaments;

(2) pressing the dry composition from step (1) to form a body of a desired shape and density; and

20 (3) heat treating the pressed body at a temperature in the range from 400 degrees Celsius to 1000 degrees Celsius to effect hardening.